

# Castro Blasts Johnson and Flaunts Arms

From Cable Dispatches

HAVANA.

Fidel Castro opened his sixth year in power by accusing President Johnson of shedding Cuban blood.

The Cuban Premier's first attack on the new American President came during a 2 hour 17 minute speech in the Plaza de la Revolucion marking the fifth anniversary of the overthrow of dictator Fulgencio Batista.

Before his speech, Cuban armed forces in a 65-minute parade displayed a variety of Soviet-made weapons, with which, Premier Castro said, "we . . . can fight against the best equipped forces of the imperialist army of the United States." Included in the display were anti-aircraft missiles, artillery, tanks, multiple rocket launchers, self-propelled guns and amphibious armored cars. Soviet MIG-21 jets piloted by Cubans buzzed the plaza.

## IN UNIFORM

The bearded Premier, discarding his rumpled fatigues, wore a dress uniform with a white shirt and black necktie.

He charged that agents of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency on Christmas Day had placed a mine beneath the hull of a Soviet-built patrol boat, which killed three Cubans and injured others.

Then he shouted:

"Since the CIA does not act on its own but takes orders from the U. S. government, we can say that President Johnson is responsible for the blood spilled there."

(A Cuban exile group, Cominando Mambises, has claimed credit for the attack on the boat.)

## RESERVATIONS

The Cuban leader said President Johnson's recent plea for world peace were "encouraging," but added that "we have reservations" about Mr. Johnson's sincerity.

He boasted that "the Cuban revolution progresses" while the Alliance for Progress is doomed. "Our revolution" he said "forms part of that powerful world revolutionary movement that began with the revolution of the workers of the Soviet Union."

He said America does not

"have any choice" but to regard his regime as permanent.

Premier Castro declared Cuba's economic situation is improving extraordinarily and reaffirmed that the island will more than double its annual sugar production, to produce 10 million tons in 1970.

In the parade, along the Avenue of Presidents to the Plaza, militia women clad in tight green pants, blue blouses and olive green berets marched, carrying submachine-guns.

Among the paratroopers in the parade was Laudina Garcia, called by Cubans "the first woman paratrooper of America."

Visitors seated with Premier Castro in the reviewing stand included Nikolai Podgorny, a member of the Soviet Communist party presidium, and Chang Chi-hsiang, vice-president of Red China's Committee for Cultural Relations with foreign countries.

Among others present were the Rev. Hewlett Johnson of Britain, who is the former Dean of Canterbury (the so-called Red Dean), and Carl Erickson of the U. S. Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

STATINTL

CPYRGHT